



CEOS REMARKS ON AIR AMBULANCE ACCIDENT
Dr. Andrew McCallum

May 31, 2013

My name is Andy McCallum. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer at Ornge.

I have just arrived back in Ontario, having learned of this tragic accident while in Vancouver early this morning. It is indeed a difficult day and I appreciate the opportunity to address you.

I would like to say a few words to honour the four men who lost their lives in this accident. Each of them has been a valued member of our team, and words cannot express the immense loss not only to Ornge, but most importantly, to their family and friends.

Captain Don Filliter, of Skead Ontario

A respected pilot with more than 20 years of flying experience, Don joined Ornge in March of this year. He was also an aircraft maintenance engineer, and served as the treasurer with Helicopters Association of Canada between 2008 and 2010. Don was 54 and is survived by his wife Suzanne and their three children.

First Officer Jacques Dupuy, of Otterburn-Park Quebec

Jacques Dupuy joined us on August 5, 2012 and has been flying since 1996. He had experience as bush pilot with Quebec Helicopters and as an executive pilot for Colibri Helicopters. Jacques was 43, had worked all over the world and leaves behind his wife Josee Capuano and their two children

Flight Paramedic Dustin Dagenais, of Moose Factory Ontario

A paramedic since 2007, Dustin joined Ornge on November 2, 2011 as a primary care paramedic. He was well known in the James Bay area, having worked for James Bay Ambulance Services in Moosonee and Attawapiskat. Dustin was 34 and leaves his wife Josee Cousineau and an infant child.

Flight Paramedic Chris Snowball, of Burlington Ontario

Christopher was 38 and joined Ornge on November 24, 2011 as a primary care paramedic. He also was well known in the James Bay area, having worked for Wabusk Air Ambulance in Moosonee. He also worked for Emergency Medical care Inc., in Baddeck Nova Scotia for 10 years. Christopher was also a volunteer fire fighter in NS, and is survived by his wife Alvaretta and their three children.

Over the past few hours, we have received numerous inquiries about how our services have been affected by this accident. Ambulance services continue to be offered by a combination of fixed wing, rotor wing and land ambulances, in partnership with EMS services. We have normal operations with our PC12 fixed wing aircraft, AW139 rotor wing aircraft, and Standing Agreement carriers. Our Sikorsky rotor wing operations in Thunder Bay and Kenora have been taken off line until preliminary information is available from the Transportation Safety Board.

We have also received a number of questions about today's circumstances. In response, I can confirm that:

- The weather was adequate for the mission being flown.
- The downed aircraft was manufactured in 1980, and has been flying for more than 30 years. There are approximately 31 such Sikorsky aircraft of this vintage currently flying in Canada. Transport Canada regularly inspects all aircraft to certify that they are safe to fly, including Ornge's fleet.

I wish to express my deepest condolences to the families and friends of each of these four individuals. Their lives were lost in serving the public, and we owe a deep debt of gratitude.